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A Study of the Teen Girl's Reactions to National Service

Seventeen

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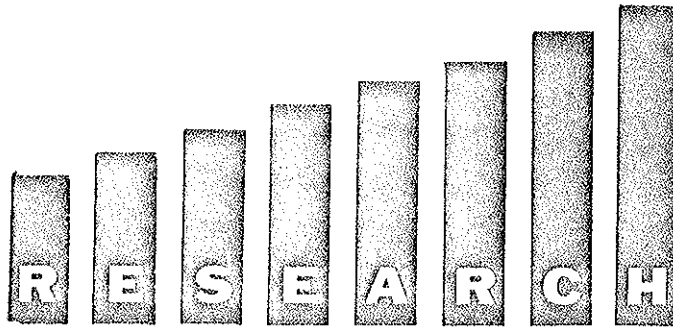
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from *seventeen.*

NATIONAL SERVICE SURVEY

March, 1969

[A Study of the Teen Girl's Reactions
to National Service]

-title

PURPOSE: This study was designed to probe the reactions of teenage girls to National Service -- a program enabling young people to serve their country in such non-military ways as nursing, teaching and working in rural and big city slums.

The questionnaire covered:

Reactions to National Service

- as a voluntary program
- as a compulsory program

If and when teen girls would participate in such a program

Opinions on National Service for men as a substitute or an addition to regular military service

METHOD: Questionnaires were mailed in February, 1969 to 2,000 members of Seventeen's Consumer Panel. This national sample of teen girls conforms to tested demographic patterns of Seventeen subscribers.

The first 1,328 responses were tabulated by Intercity Research and form the basis for the following analysis.

H I G H L I G H T S

Almost two-thirds of teen girls oppose National Service as a requirement for young women.

Nine out of ten teen girls, however, favor such a program on a voluntary basis.

For men, 59.0% of teen girls think the program should be voluntary rather than compulsory, while 83.4% say it should be voluntary for women.

Two-thirds of the teen girls say that they would volunteer to serve for a year in National Service. Among these girls, almost half (45.2%) would volunteer after graduating from college.

Eight out of ten (78.2%) think that when a man is drafted, he should have a choice of either military service or some form of non-military service.

After a man has been in a voluntary, non-military service, two-thirds think he should not be exempt from military draft, but put at the bottom of the draft list, to be called only in a national emergency.

Note: In analyzing the data, there were 25 "No Answers" to the Age and Section of the Country questions. These 25 respondents are included in the total sample, but are not shown separately as the base is too small for stability.

NATIONAL SERVICE SURVEY

1. Would You Favor Or Oppose The Requirement Of All Young Women To Give One Year Of Service To The Nation, With Some Degree Of Choice As To The Service Performed?

	<u>All Girls</u>	<u>(BY AGE)</u>	
		<u>Under 17 Years</u>	<u>17 Years & Over</u>
Favor	34.8%	37.0%	32.3%
Oppose	64.9	62.4	67.7
No Answer	<u>.3</u>	<u>.6</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

	<u>(BY SECTION OF THE COUNTRY)</u>			
	<u>North/ Northeast</u>	<u>East/West Central</u>	<u>South/ South Atlantic</u>	<u>Mountain And Pacific</u>
Favor	28.9%	36.7%	37.8%	38.0%
Oppose	71.1	63.3	60.8	62.0
No Answer	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1.4</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

NATIONAL SERVICE SURVEY (Continued)

2. Would You Favor Or Oppose Such A Voluntary Service For
Both Men And Women Guaranteed To All Who Want To Serve?

	<u>All Girls</u>	<u>(BY AGE)</u>	
		<u>Under 17 Years</u>	<u>17 Years & Over</u>
Favor	89.4%	90.5%	88.4%
Oppose	10.4	9.3	11.6
No Answer	<u>.2</u>	<u>.2</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

	<u>(BY SECTION OF THE COUNTRY)</u>			
	<u>North/ Northeast</u>	<u>East/West Central</u>	<u>South/ South Atlantic</u>	<u>Mountain And Pacific</u>
Favor	90.5%	89.8%	88.8%	88.0%
Oppose	9.5	10.2	11.2	11.3
No Answer	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>.7</u>
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

NATIONAL SERVICE SURVEY (Continued)

3. Would You Prefer That Such A Service
Be Compulsory Or Voluntary?

FOR MEN

	<u>(BY AGE)</u>		
	<u>All Girls</u>	<u>Under 17 Years</u>	<u>17 Years & Over</u>
Compulsory	39.7%	40.5%	38.7%
Voluntary	59.0	57.1	61.0
No Answer	<u>1.3</u>	<u>2.4</u>	<u>.3</u>
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

(BY SECTION OF THE COUNTRY)

	<u>North/ Northeast</u>	<u>East/West Central</u>	<u>South/ South Atlantic</u>	<u>Mountain And Pacific</u>
Compulsory	36.6%	40.9%	42.0%	40.0%
Voluntary	62.9	58.6	54.5	58.0
No Answer	<u>.5</u>	<u>.5</u>	<u>3.5</u>	<u>2.0</u>
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

FOR WOMEN

	<u>(BY AGE)</u>		
	<u>All Girls</u>	<u>Under 17 Years</u>	<u>17 Years & Over</u>
Compulsory	15.1%	15.3%	14.4%
Voluntary	83.4	82.0	85.4
No Answer	<u>1.5</u>	<u>2.7</u>	<u>.2</u>
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

(BY SECTION OF THE COUNTRY)

	<u>North/ Northeast</u>	<u>East/West Central</u>	<u>South/ South Atlantic</u>	<u>Mountain And Pacific</u>
Compulsory	12.5%	15.3%	16.1%	16.7%
Voluntary	86.6	83.7	81.8	80.7
No Answer	<u>.9</u>	<u>1.0</u>	<u>2.1</u>	<u>2.6</u>
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

NATIONAL SERVICE SURVEY (Continued)

4. Would You Personally Volunteer To Serve For A Year In Such A Program?

	<u>All Girls</u>	<u>(BY AGE)</u>	
		<u>Under 17 Years</u>	<u>17 Years & Over</u>
Yes	66.9%	70.1%	63.0%
No	<u>33.1</u>	<u>29.9</u>	<u>37.0</u>
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

	<u>(BY SECTION OF THE COUNTRY)</u>			
	<u>North/ Northeast</u>	<u>East/west Central</u>	<u>South/ South Atlantic</u>	<u>Mountain And Pacific</u>
Yes	68.5%	65.6%	60.8%	70.7%
No	<u>31.5</u>	<u>34.4</u>	<u>39.2</u>	<u>29.3</u>
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

NATIONAL SERVICE SURVEY (Continued)

4a. If Yes, When Would You Volunteer?

	<u>All Girls</u>	<u>(BY AGE)</u>	
		<u>Under 17 Years</u>	<u>17 Years & Over</u>
After graduating from high school and before entering college	30.6%	30.6%	30.3%
During high school years	11.5	15.5	7.0
During college years	17.1	15.1	18.9
After graduating from college	45.2	44.2	46.9
No Answer	.2	.4	-

	<u>(BY SECTION OF THE COUNTRY)</u>			
	<u>North/ Northeast</u>	<u>East/West Central</u>	<u>South/ South Atlantic</u>	<u>Mountain And Pacific</u>
After graduating from high school and before entering college	25.2%	39.7%	20.7%	34.0%
During high school years	13.2	9.9	6.9	15.1
During college years	15.1	18.4	14.9	18.9
After graduating from college	49.7	37.6	59.8	37.7
No Answer	.6	-	-	-

NATIONAL SERVICE SURVEY (Continued)

5. When A Man Is Drafted Do You Think He Should Have A Choice Of Either
Military Service Or Some Form Of Nonmilitary National Service?

	<u>(BY AGE)</u>		
	<u>All Girls</u>	<u>Under 17 Years</u>	<u>17 Years & Over</u>
Yes	78.2%	78.6%	78.5%
No	20.8	20.4	20.7
No Answer	<u>1.0</u>	<u>1.0</u>	<u>.8</u>
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

	<u>(BY SECTION OF THE COUNTRY)</u>			
	<u>North/ Northeast</u>	<u>East/West Central</u>	<u>South/ South Atlantic</u>	<u>Mountain And Pacific</u>
Yes	79.3%	78.6%	75.5%	80.0%
No	19.8	20.0	23.1	20.0
No Answer	<u>.9</u>	<u>1.4</u>	<u>1.4</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

NATIONAL SERVICE SURVEY (Continued)

6. If A Man Has Spent A Specified Time In Voluntary, Nonmilitary Service (Like Vista Or The Peace Corps), Do You Think He Should Be:

Eligible for the military draft .

Exempt from the military draft

Not exempt but put at the bottom of the
draft list, to be called only in a
national emergency

(write in first, second, and third choices)

<u>Eligible For The Military Draft</u>	<u>All Girls</u>	<u>(BY AGE)</u>	
		<u>Under 17 Years</u>	<u>17 Years & Over</u>
First Choice	9.6%	9.8%	9.4%
Second Choice	24.6	26.2	23.2
Third Choice	45.9	43.4	48.6
No Answer	19.9	20.6	18.8
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

<u>Exempt From The Military Draft</u>	<u>All Girls</u>	<u>Under 17 Years</u>	<u>17 Years & Over</u>
First Choice	23.6%	20.6%	27.1%
Second Choice	26.2	26.5	25.7
Third Choice	31.9	33.3	30.7
No Answer	18.3	19.6	16.5
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Not Exempt But Put At The Bottom
Of The Draft List, To Be Called
Only In A National Emergency

<u>All Girls</u>	<u>Under 17 Years</u>	<u>17 Years & Over</u>
First Choice	68.3%	63.3%
Second Choice	24.6	30.4
Third Choice	.3	.3
No Answer	6.8	6.0
Total	100.0%	100.0%

NATIONAL SERVICE SURVEY (Continued)

6. -Continued

(BY SECTION OF THE COUNTRY)

<u>Eligible For The Military Draft</u>	<u>North/ Northeast</u>	<u>East/West Central</u>	<u>South/ South Atlantic</u>	<u>Mountain And Pacific</u>
First Choice	8.2%	9.8%	11.2%	10.0%
Second Choice	20.7	28.8	29.4	20.7
Third Choice	49.6	45.6	37.1	49.3
No Answer	21.5	15.8	22.3	20.0
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
<u>Exempt From The Military Draft</u>	<u>North/ Northeast</u>	<u>East/West Central</u>	<u>South/ South Atlantic</u>	<u>Mountain And Pacific</u>
First Choice	28.0%	22.3%	21.0%	22.0%
Second Choice	27.2	26.0	22.4	28.0
Third Choice	27.6	35.8	36.4	29.3
No Answer	17.2	15.9	20.2	20.7
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
<u>Not Exempt But Put At The Bottom Of The Draft List, To Be Called Only In A National Emergency</u>	<u>North/ Northeast</u>	<u>East/West Central</u>	<u>South/ South Atlantic</u>	<u>Mountain And Pacific</u>
First Choice	63.4%	67.4%	65.7%	67.3%
Second Choice	29.7	27.0	23.1	28.7
Third Choice	.4	-	.7	-
No Answer	6.5	5.6	10.5	4.0
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%